

Action Suggested
by
Working Group on the Decisions of the
Empowered Committee on the
National Policy on Library & Information System



Department of Culture
Ministry of Human Resource Development
Government of India
New Delhi

FOREWORD

The Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of Culture constituted a Committee in October, 1985 to formulate a National Policy on Library and Information System. The Committee submitted its Report 'National Policy on Library and Information System: A Presentation' in May, 1986. The Department of Culture appointed in November, 1986 an Empowered Committee under the Chairmanship of Prof. D.P. Chattopadhyaya to lay down the programme of action for the implementation of the recommendations made in the said report. The Empowered Committee took certain decisions and submitted the same in the form of a report in April, 1988.

On examination of the Empowered Committee's decisions, it was felt that certain decisions would be difficult to implement in the form envisaged by the Empowered Committee. It was accordingly decided that a Working Group comprising experts and administrators associated with the development of Library and Information System should carefully go through each decision of the Empowered Committee and indicate how best to implement them. The composition of the Working Group was:-

1. Ms. Komal Anand (Chairperson)

Joint Secretary to the Govt. of India
Department of Culture
New Delhi.

2. Dr. B.P. Barua

Director
Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation
Calcutta.

3. Prof. A.P. Srivastava

Librarian
University of Delhi
Delhi.

4. Shri C.P. Vashishth

President
Indian Library Association
New Delhi.

5. Shri N.R. Chandran

Director
Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan
New Delhi.



6. Dr. S.N. Khanna
Director
Delhi Public Library
Delhi.
7. Ms. Kalpana Dasgupta
Principal Library and Information Officer
National Library
Calcutta.
8. Shri N. Sikdar
Dy. Educational Advisor (CH)
Department of Culture
New Delhi.
9. Shri Inder Deo
Assistant Director
Central Secretariat Library
New Delhi.

SPECIAL INVITEES

10. Prof. Ravinder Kumar
Director
Nehru Memorial Museum and Library
New Delhi.
11. Dr. D.N. Banerjee
Director
National Library
Calcutta.



The Working Group discussed the whole matter in four sittings on 7th and 22nd July, 20th August and 29th September, 1992 and submitted its suggestions in December, 1992, which have since been accepted by the Government for implementation.

(Komal Anand)

Joint Secretary to the Govt. of India.

CONTENTS

1. Foreword.
2. Discussion on the Preamble of Chapter III of the Report of the Empowered Committee on the National Policy on Library and Information System.

Point - 1. Declaring Director, National Library as Head of the Department for Central Reference Library with all Administrative and Financial Powers.

Point - 2. Initiating action for creation of National Commission on Library/ Documentation and Informatics within the Govt. set up.
3. Public Library System ----- Item No. 1-17B.
4. Academic Library System ----- Item No. 18-29.
5. Special Library and Information
System ----- Item No. 30-32.
6. National Library and Bibliographical
Services ----- Item No. 33-47.
7. Modernisation of Library and
Information System ----- Item No. 48-52.
8. Implementing Agencies and Financial
Support ----- Item No. 53-60.

ACTION SUGGESTED BY WORKING GROUP ON THE DECISIONS OF

THE EMPOWERED COMMITTEE ON THE NATIONAL POLICY

ON LIBRARY & INFORMATION SYSTEMS

The working Group started discussions item-wise from Chapter III of the Report of the Empowered Committee.

Chapter - III of the Report highlights two points in the preamble, which are:-

- (1) Declaring Director, National Library, as the Head of the Department for the Central Reference Library with all administrative and financial powers;
- (2) Initiating action for the creation of a National Commission on Library/Documentation and Informatics within the Government set up.

Point (i) is linked with Item 41 under National Library System and Bibliographical Services, which envisages complete merger of the Central Reference Library with the National Library, Calcutta. The following lines of action were indicated:-

- (i) The Central Reference Library may be merged completely with National Library, giving its employees revised designations pay scales, seniority, etc. as per Ministry of Finance O.M. No. 19(1)IC/86 dated 24.7.90 and the Department of Culture, Notification No. F10-1/92-Lib. dated 25.3.92. With this, the Director, National Library, will automatically be the Head of the Department for the newly merged entity.
- (ii) The budget of the Central Reference Library will form part of the National Library budget.

(iii) The Director, National Library will reallocate the duties and responsibilities of the employees of the erstwhile Central Reference Library.

Regarding point (2), the proposal for setting up a National Commission on Library & Information System has been included in the National Cultural Policy for consideration of the Govt. and the parliament. Meanwhile, the Department of Culture may constitute a Central Advisory Committee on Library and Information System on the lines of the Central Advisory Board of Education





THE DETAILED REPORT

RECOMMENDATIONS OF NAPLIS

DECISIONS OF EMPOWERED COMMITTEE

1

2

PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEMS:

1. The most important task is to establish, maintain and strengthen public libraries in the country and enable them to work as a system. Responsibility of mobilisation resources would be shared by various States and Central Governments, public undertakings and voluntary agencies.

ACCEPTED

Re. 1/- to Rs. 10.00 may be charged as nominal membership fee. (Fee will be fixed by the libraries keeping in view the economic condition of the target group of users)



सत्यमेव जयते

ACTION SUGGESTED BY WORKING
GROUP

REMARKS

3

4

'Library' being a State subject, The Deptt. of culture, (Empowered Committee Cell) is not in a position to take direct action. The Empowered Committee Cell (hereinafter referred to as the 'Cell') may address for necessary action all Central Ministries / Departments; all organisations under the Ministry of Human Resource Development, including the UGC; all State Govts/ U.T. Administrations; and known voluntary organisations in the State / Govts/ U.T. Admns. for establishing/ strengthening the rural library system under the Minimum Needs Programme by AD 2001 in the manner indicated in the Report.

1

2

2. The main thrust should go to rural Public library. A village or a village - cluster with an adequate population should have a community library / rural community centre library (CCL) which will also serve as an information centre. Resources of different agencies engaged in the public health, adult education, local self government, etc.; are to be mobilised to build up this centre.

Committee feels that this kind of rural library service should be made available in each village under the MINIMUM NEEDS PROGRAMME by 2001 A.D. Central Government & State Government agencies, such as, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Department of Culture, Department of Social Welfare, Department of Education, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting etc. and programmes for example National Literacy Mission (NLM), District Institute of Education & Training (DIET) should closely co-ordinate and share resources in building up the local community Centre libraries (CCL).

3. Ministry of Rural Development has undertaken a plan of building up one Community Centre in every Panchayat (1,00,000 Centres, estimated) during the 8th Five Year Plan, Department of Culture

Matter may be examined in consultation with the Ministry of Rural Development and Ministry of Human Resource Development.

3

4

The cell may also write to Department of Education to involve the National Literacy Mission in the Programme.

As this is likely to generate queries seeking clarifications, etc. action may be initiated by the Library Information Division when set up (vide item 55)



The Cell may take up the matter with the Ministry of Rural Development.

Action may be initiated by the Library Information Division when set up.

and Ministry of Rural Development have agreed to provide library services at each of these Rural Community Centres.

4. An important link should be established between the Community Centre Library and Primary Schools. If the schools do not have library of their own, Community Centre Library should provide the children with adequate services.

ACCEPTED

Every rural public library shall have a children's section with material covering schools curricula and extra reading materials suitable for children. NCERT and several voluntary agencies may provide the list of suitable reading material. The Committee reemphasised the need of developing children's libraries and/or children's section in all public libraries as an endorsement of the NPE Guidelines (Programme of Action) and National Books Policy Empowered Committee Report. A minimum 20% of public library stock should be meant for children.

The Cell may ascertain the status of the Children's Wing in the National Library and the Delhi Public Library so as to examine the scope, if any, for further improvement.

The Cell may also write to the National Book Trust and the Children's Book Trust to provide a list of suitable reading material for a Children's Library. The consolidated list may be forwarded to the appropriate authorities in the State/ UT's for strengthening the Children's Section in rural public libraries.

Action may be initiated by the Library Information Division when set up.



1

2

5. A Community Centre Library should have audio and visual materials and equipment to meet the needs especially of the illiterate section of the community.

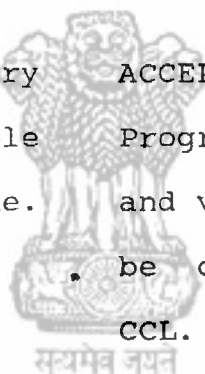
ACCEPTED

Learning a.v. packages developed by Educational Technology Centres of States and Central Government agencies and programmes developed by them should be made available to all Community Centre Libraries (CCL).

6. A Community Centre Library should have an important role in Adult Education Programme.

ACCEPTED

Programmes of NLM and DIET, and voluntary agencies should be closely interlinked with CCL.



7. A District Library should serve as an apex library for each district with public libraries at city, town and village levels, constituting important components in the

ACCEPTED

RRRLF may provide the guidance in establishing linkages between all public libraries in each district. District Board of Education (DBE) res-

The Cell may write to the Department of Education for making available a.v.packages developed by Central Government agencies. These may then be sent to the concerned State/ U.T. Departments for replenishing the Community Centre Libraries.

The Cell may write to the State/ U.T. Authorities for co-ordinating the programme of National Literacy Mission, DIET and voluntary agencies for developing the Community Centre Libraries, vis-a-vis, Adult Education Programme. Action may be initiated by the Library Information Division when set up. The Cell may also address the Deptt. of Education in this behalf.

The Cell may ask the Raja Ram Mohan Roy Library Foundation to prepare and send the guidelines, which may then be forwarded to the concerned State / U.T. Departments, for guid-

District Library System. It will take leadership in establishing linkages between all other public libraries under the District and work towards sharing the resources.

possible for overall planning & administration of all educational programmes and its District Resources Unit (DRU) as a part of DIET should provide both technical and financial resources and work in close co-ordination with the district library system of the State.

8. A District Library should also provide for more facilities and recreation for the handicapped and underprivileged classes, eg. literature in Braille.

ACCEPTED
Department of Social Welfare,
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Ministry of Human Resource Development, voluntary agencies & RRRLF are to provide both technical and financial support. Organisations such as National Institute of Visually Handicapped Dehradun, National Institute of Health & Family Welfare are to be associated in developing suitable resource material.

ance in establishing linkages.

The Cell may write to all the concerned authorities for necessary action.

Action may be initiated by the Library & Information Division when set up.



1

2

9. A District Library and its branch libraries should also have mobile and circulating library services within their area, wherever necessary, Hospital, prison and infirmary are to be covered under this service.

ACCEPTED

10. Libraries for special groups should be built in areas of tribal concentration and minority communities to help in developing and sustaining their distinctive cultures. Government will encourage such communities to develop their own libraries through their voluntary efforts.

ACCEPTED

11. The key role of public libraries as chief sustaining agencies for distant education is to be recognised and they should be adequately eq-

National Authorities on Adult Education, National Institute of Adult Education, JSN and similar State Government and voluntary agencies are to be

3

4

The Cell may write to the concerned State/ U.T. Authorities for necessary action.

The Cell may write to the concerned State/ U.T. Authorities to set up such libraries for special groups and to encourage through field workers such communities to set up their own libraries. The Department of Education & the Minorities Commission may also be approached for extending help in this behalf.

The Cell may write to the Department of Education and the concerned State/ U.T. Authorities for necessary action.

As against item 10 above

1

2

uipped with relevant resources, such as publications covering Open University and vocational education courses.

associated with the State Public Library Development Programme and the National Commission for Libraries (NCL). Publications of IGNOU should be available in all local public libraries.

12. All Public libraries within a State should form part of a network extending from village library through intermediary levels, Community Centre Library, District Library and State Network should be linked up with the national information grid.

NICNET and the proposed EDUNET and any other information databases developed and available through a network such as INDONET should be available at the District Resource Unit / District Library.

13. Role of the State Central Library is crucial in the networking and in the establishment of uniform library procedures and standards within the State. A detailed field survey of 2 or 3 districts in different regions or areas on information needs, road, rail, telecom-

ACCEPTED
(Sample Surveys of Public Libraries should be taken up by RRRLF). Under NLM Programme, 40 districts are to be identified initially (20 well-endowed and 20 under-endowed). RRRLF may Co-ordinate Sample Surveys closely with this Programme and in the same

The Cell may write to the State/ U.T. Governments to initiate action for inter-linking their libraries with the help of the National Informatics Centre (NIC). Action may be initiated by the Library & Information Division when set up.



The Cell may write to the _____
Raja Rammohan Roy Library Foundation for taking necessary action in this regard.

munication facilities and the districts.
scope of working with other
agencies, such as Department
of Culture/ Rural Development
/Health and Welfare industri-
es/ Khadi and village Commis-
sion/Education, Bureau of
Public Enterprises, Departm-
ent of Banking etc.; can be
determined for co-ordinating
their administrative and fin-
ancial responsibilities under
the Minimum Need-based Progr-
amme.



14. It was considered that a
few projects to develop stan-
dards, Guidelines on Model
Library Service at several
levels may be initiated urg-
ently by the Department of
Culture.

(a) Schools (Rural) library
standards, guidelines and obj-
ectives;

(b) Audio and visual packages
of library use in various

RRRLF may be asked to prepare
an Action Plan in collaborat-
ion with the State agencies in
developing initially 10 model
rural libraries. Department
of Culture may request some
organisations/ individuals to
take up the projects (a), (b)
& (d) and provide necessary
funds.



The Cell may write to the Action may be initiated by RRRLF for preparing an action the Library & Information plan for setting up 10 model Division when set up. rural libraries, one each in 10 selected States. The Cell may request ILA to develop project (a), National Library to develop project (b), RRRLF to develop project (c), and NIC to develop project (d).

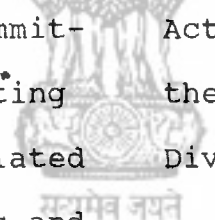
languages;

(c) Library information service in rural set-up; and

(d) Manpower development in relation to the application of modern technology through some appropriate agencies for rapid implementation of library service network throughout the country.

15. Proposals for maintenance and development of public libraries should preferably be through State Legislative Enactments. The Central Government may revise Model Public Library Bill (already prepared) in the light of the experience gained in recent years. Finances for library development should be found by each State, either from general revenue or from local taxation. Central Government agencies may provide fund under Plan expenditure.





The Cell may set up a Committee to revise the existing Model Library Bill circulated earlier to the State/ UTs, and send the revised version to those State/ UTs who are yet to enact library legislation. As regards financing library development, the Cell may write to State/UT's and appropriate Central agencies.

Action may be initiated by the Library & Information Division when set up.

16. To make the role of RRRLF as national agency for co-ordinating and assisting the development of public libraries, RRRLF may be declared as an Institute of National Importance.

Needs further examination in relation to the proposed National Commission for Libraries.

17. The Central Government should assist the State agencies in the development of public libraries in a larger way than it has done so far. The RRRLF will serve as the main national agency in the public library development programme.



17 A. The Central Government in collaboration with State Governments may establish atleast one multilingual library in each state.

ACCEPTED

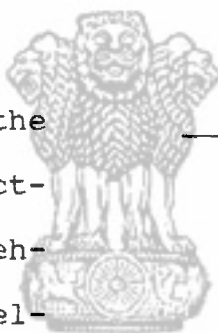
3

4

Deferred

No action required.

The Cell may write to the _____
RRRLF to take necessary action in developing a comprehensive Public Library Development Plan for the country, including its financing.



The Cell may write to State _____
Govt. authorities to add at least a section of multilingual collection in one of their good libraries. The State Govts. may approach the RRRLF for providing necessary

17 B. Suitable legislation be enacted so that new urban development projects compulsorily provide for building of libraries, reading rooms, and books stores at the cost of the projects.

ACCEPTED

Ministry of Urban Development may be approached for taking appropriate action.

ACADEMIC LIBRARY SYSTEM

18. In view of making our learning process healthy and enjoyable, teaching should be around the library resources of the educational institutions and children should be introduced to the pleasure and importance of books and other learning aids at an early age. It is recommended that teachers/ Librarians should guide the students to use libraries. There should be provision of library period in the time table at the primary and sec-

NCERT, DIET, SIET and library professional organisations should promote and produce suitable guidelines for the benefit of educational institutions.

help in this regard.

The Cell may write to the _____
Ministry of Urban Development
for necessary action.



The Cell may write to the _____ Action may be initiated by
NCERT, Open School authorities the Library - & Information
and library professional Division when set up.
organisations for taking necessary action.

ondary levels; adequate provision of reading and other types of material to meet academic and recreational needs; organise book exhibitions; encourage activities to promote reading habits of both students and teachers; celebrate library week every year; institute incentives, prizes and awards to promote effective use of libraries; take initiative in developing and introducing user's education programme in the library.



19. Every school and college must have a library and a qualified/ trained librarian. Primary and junior schools where such facilities are not provided may share the resources of the local Community Centre Library. Alternatively, in areas where the Community Centre Library does not exist, the primary school / junior school should be so developed as to serve as the library of

NCERT and SIETS may provide guidelines and ensure their enforcement. DIET and local library authorities should closely co-ordinate for their implementation.



सत्यमेव जयते

The Cell may write to the NCERT for drawing up the guidelines and thereafter taking necessary action to ensure their enforcement.

Action may be initiated by the Library & Information Division when set up.

the local community. Children of all age groups must be allowed to get help from this library even if they are not students.

20. There should be an agency at the State level for proper development of School Libraries which should have some proper representation at the proposed Sub-Committee on Special and Academic Libraries of the National Commission on Libraries.

SIETs & DIETs may adopt the NCERT developed model school library standards and guidelines.



21. School teachers responsible for libraries should go through short training courses in library science.

NCERT, SIET may involve ILA and State Library Associations in running such courses at Teacher's Training Colleges.

22. UGC/AICTE should provide

ACCEPTED

The Cell may write to the NCERT for developing guidelines for model school library standards, and for taking necessary follow up action.

Action may be taken by the Library & Information Division when set up.



The Working Group is of the opinion that there should be full-time qualified librarians in schools and the practice of engaging subject teachers for part-time library work is not desirable. In fact, this is inconsistent with the decision of item 19 and hence may not be accepted.

No action required.

The same as item 21 above.
May not be accepted.

No action required.

assistance to organise refresher courses / orientation courses for users / college libraries and NCERT / SIETs should support similar programmes for school librarians / teachers.

23. To evaluate performance of librarians, UGC/AICTE should evolve a procedure of performance appraisal of university and college librarians and NCERT should evolve such measures for school librarians / teachers.

ACCEPTED

24. University and college libraries must be given adequate facilities in staffing, buildings, furniture and equipments and reading materials etc., before a university and college can start their proper function. UGC/ AICTE is to devise and lay down norms for academic libraries in the country. Senior staff members of university should be rega-

ACCEPTED.

Association of Indian Universities may take up a project in devising academic library norms on priority basis.

The Cell may write to the
UGC/AICTE/NCERT. The Working
Group feels that the emphasis
should be on self- evaluation
rather than evaluation by
another authority.



The Cell may write to the UGC Action may be taken by the
for taking necessary action Library & Information Division
and also write to the Associa- when set up.
tion of Indian Universities
to evolve academic library
norms.

rded as full members of the academic community and the library is to be considered as an 'academic unit'.

25. It is essential that universities, colleges and research organisations in one region/State must establish linkages and share their resources. It should be possible to devise a common acquisition programme. Such resource-sharing may also save avoidable duplication and reveal under-utilization of resources in academic libraries.

ACCEPTED

The proposed EDUNET now at its developing stage with Department of Electronics may provide these guidelines within the project proposal.

26. Distance education has been put on high priority (NPE Programme of Action) in Indian education system. Apart from Public libraries, local college and university libraries should extend facilities to the students under this programme. The local academic libraries should be provided

ACCEPTED

IGNOU & Departments of Correspondence Studies of various universities are to be associated and share resources with local educational institutions and public libraries. RRRLF shall coordinate this programme in relation to public library system.

The Cell may write to the UGC _____
for taking necessary action.



The Cell may write to the Dep- _____
artment of Education for taki-
ng necessary action and also
request the RRRLF to coordi-
nate the programme in relation
to the public library system.

with necessary measures to extend their services to this group of users.

27. Academic libraries, specially university and research libraries should widen their scope by adding bibliographical and current awareness service (including SDI).

ACCEPTED

28. UGC / AICTE has set up 3 regional centres (Bangalore, Bombay, Baroda) to back up University Library System covering science and technology, social sciences and humanities respectively. There should be more similar centres in other parts of the country inter-linked with each other and the National Network.

ACCEPTED

Proposed EDUNET may consider this decision.

29. UGC/AICTE and other agencies will take appropriate measures in providing adequate training facilities to university and college library staff and faculty members of the

UGC/AICTE may give high priority in arranging short term orientation courses on modern library management and information technology both for library staff and teachers of

The Cell may write to the UGC _____
for taking necessary action.

The Cell may write to the UGC _____
and the AICTE for taking necessary action.

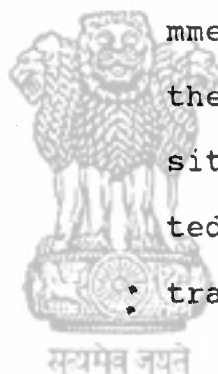


The Cell may write to the UGC _____
and the AICTE for implementing
the programme in the manner
indicated.

Library Science Department in the application of information technology and modern management practices.

of Library Science Departments.'

To begin with, a few selected University Library Science Departments may be provided with adequate resources in getting necessary hardware equipment (PC-AT, Reprographic equipment, etc.) as part of manpower development programme. Experts available in the field outside the University System could be associated with in conducting the training courses.



SPECIAL LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SYSTEM

30. The National Information System for Science & Technology (NISSAT), a Programme introduced by DSIR in 1977 needs to be further strengthened and linked up with National Information Network (proposed by NAPLIS) and UGC/AICTE's proposed programme of networking the University Library System.

DSIR's Regional Network Pilot Projects under NISSAT Programme & EDUNET Programme should be closely interlinked together with NICNET. INSDOC's 'National Union Catalogue of Scientific Serials in India (NUC-SSI)' could serve in developing an active resource sharing to avoid useless dupli-



The Working Group recommends that a Committee may be constituted comprising the agencies mentioned and experts in the field to chalk out policy guidelines for a comprehensive and viable national networking.

Action may be taken by the Library & Information Division when set up.

cation and develop an effective Document Delivery Service. A Sub-Committee under the National Commission of Libraries (NCL) may be set up to chalk out policy guidelines.

31. Considering the high costs of databases, such activities should be channelised through a few model centres. These Centres, in mutual cooperation should be responsible for acquiring international databases and system software development. A large number of existing, planned and projected information systems, covering fields such as Health Science Information System, Environmental Information System, Biotechnology Information System, Agricultural Information System, Non-conventional Energy Information System etc. should receive due attention for development.

DSIR, UGC/AICTE, NCL and the National Library may constitute a high powered Committee for identifying the institutions and disciplines which would be brought under the national network of library service in consultation with Department of Electronics, Ministry of Human Resource Development and Department of Telecommunications.

3

4

This is covered under item 30 Covered under item 30 above
above.



32. There has been a quantum growth in research and development activities in the country since Independence. Consequently, many Special and Research Libraries were established. However, there exists a significant gap in all areas of natural science, social sciences and humanities. Secondly, the development of Information Centres in all these areas is not evenly distributed over the country. A survey may be undertaken to identify the existing weaknesses in order to develop a national comprehensive core collection shared by the country's library system.

National Library, INSDOC, DST and ICSSR may take suitable actions and undertake projects of survey, evaluation and establishment of national data bases. (eg. DST's Research Funding Database).

NATIONAL LIBRARY SYSTEM AND BIBLIOGRAPHICAL SERVICES

33. The National Library based in Calcutta and historically India's pre-eminent library, needs to be strengthened and supported in a manner which

ACCEPTED.

The Committee decided that the Department of Culture may take appropriate action to change the status of the National Li-

3

4

The Cell may write to the National Library, ICSSR, INSD-OC and DST, requesting them to take necessary action in this regard.

Action may be taken by the Library & Information Division when set up.



The Department of Culture may take necessary action to change the status of the National Library from a Subordinate Office to Attached

Action may be taken by the Library & Information Division when set up.

will enable it to discharge the responsibilities enjoined in NAPLIS in close co-operation with other national level libraries and be at the apex of the country's library network system. The National Library, Calcutta in consultation with the Department of Culture and Department of Law may suggest the amendment of the National Library act, 1976 together with the Delivery of Books Act, 1954.



34. To meet the library needs at the national level, there should be a system of National Library (NLS), consisting of the National Library, Calcutta as the National Library of India, National Depository Libraries in Delhi, Bombay, and Madras; National subject libraries and such other libraries of national importance. These National Libraries should form part of one integrated system. The position of the

library from subordinate to an Attached Office. This would help National Library in discharging its responsibilities in a more effective manner as proposed in NAPLIS.

ACCEPTED

These libraries may consider of forming an Association of Libraries under the Societies Registration Act with the scope and objectives as those of Association of Indian Universities. There will be a Standing Sub-Committee of the NCL for the NLS. Till such time, National Library may constitute a National Library Board with 18 members and MOS Education & Culture as Ex-Off-

Office. There should also be a National Library Advisory Board, to be constituted by the Govt. of India, with the following composition:-

1. Secretary, Deptt. Chairman
of Culture
2. Financial Advisor Member
3. Two academics Members
4. Two Library Members
professionals
5. Director, NL Member-
Secretary



The Group felt the necessity to have a Coordination Committee for the national level libraries for the purpose of coordination, reduction in the communication gaps, avoidance of unnecessary duplication, etc. The composition of the said Coordination Committee could be as follows:-

Action may be taken by the Library & Information Division when set up.

1. Director, NL : Chairman.
2. Representative of
Deptt. of Culture.

1

2

National Library, Calcutta in the fully developed form of NLS shall be that of prime among the equals.

icio Chairman; and Director, National Library as the Member-Secretary to advise on development of collections, resource sharing, and establishing network, etc. and such other policy matters. Members of the Board would be ex-officio representatives, one each of Department of Education, Department of Culture, DST, UGC, AICTE, Ministry of Finance, four eminent academics (Humanities, Social Sciences, Science and Technology), two eminent litterateurs, four representatives of regional national libraries and subject national libraries. Details and terms, objectives, etc., may be worked out by the Director, National Library in consultation with the Department of Law and Department of Culture.

35. National Depository Libraries: Connemara Public Library, Madras; Central Library (Asiatic Society), Bombay;

ACCEPTED.

Government of India is to take necessary steps to declare these National Depository

3. Representative of
Deptt. of Education.
4. Representative of IFD.
5. Director, RRRLF.
6. Four library professionals to be nominated by the Chairman by rotation every three years.

The Cell may write to the
Director, NL for a concrete
proposal in this behalf.



The Deptt. of Culture may
examine the feasibility of
giving adequate grants for
the purposes of the developm-

Action may be initiated by the
Library & Information Division
when set up.

and Delhi Public Library, Delhi should concentrate in different regions intensively upon the development of collections and preservation of Indian culture produced in the languages of the regions concerned, supplementing and complementing the efforts of Indian National Library. An estimated amount of Rs. 6 lakhs will be the annual requirement of each of these 3 recipient libraries for storing and administering publications received under the Delivery of Books Act. Till such time, Central Government may give 50% of the capital expenditure to Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra State Governments for these libraries' building and equipment programme for this purpose.

36. Information needs of the users in the country should be met by the establishment,

Libraries as Institutions of National Importance. Details to be worked out by the Department of Culture in consultation with the Libraries. Items 35 & 42 are to be taken together and will be pursued by the Department of Culture in consultation with the National Library and other 3 DB Act Recipient Libraries. Director, National Library, shall be the convener of the DB Act Review Committee (Superseding earlier Committee constituted by the Deptt. of Culture vide their letter No. F.17-2/84-Lib of 3.12.1984). This Review Committee will suggest measures to implement the recommendations of the NAPLIS Report.

ACCEPTED.

ent of collections and preservation of Indian Culture produced in the languages of the regions concerned as mentioned in the NAPLIS recommendation. As regards the review of DB Act, the Deptt. of Culture may constitute a Review Committee, with the Director, National Library as its convener.



The Cell may write to the concerned Ministries/ Departments/ Organisations.

37. Dormitory libraries should be established in regions having an important cluster of libraries and these pre-mediatary libraries should take care of the less used documents of different libraries.

NCL may examine.

38. Considering the importance of Indic languages manuscripts for Indological research, a suitable manuscript preservation and cataloguing policy needs to be urgently devised. (No significant work has been done since Prof. Raghavan undertook a survey of manuscript collection during 1953-57).

RRRLF and IGNCA may be asked to take suitable steps for the prservation, conservation and cataloguing of Indian manuscripts.

39. RRRLF and the Government of India's Programme of Grant-in- Aid to voluntary agencies

RRRLF may modify their rules
and remove the ceiling of
Grant in such exceptional

No action required.

No action required.



The Cell may write to the सत्यमेव जयते
National Archives of India to
draw up a comprehensive pol-
icy for the preservation,
conservation and cataloguing
of manuscripts.

Preservation and cataloguing
of manuscripts is the respon-
sibility of National Archives

for preservation and cataloguing of manuscripts may be suitably widened to allocate funds to a few major voluntary organisations having large collections of antiquarian books and manuscripts of national importance for both preservation and cataloguing.

cases in concurrence with the Department of Culture.

40. Government should take steps to create national awareness of the urgent need to preserve the nation's cultural heritage available in the printed form. National Libraries are to undertake this national task.

National Library and IGNCA may, in consultation with others provide the required guidelines.

41. The Indian National Bibliography currently produced by the Central Reference Library should have a comprehensive coverage about the nation's output of documents and it should be brought out regularly without fail. This responsibility should be

ACCEPTED.

(As an immediate step, the Department of Culture is to issue necessary official order in making the Director, National Library function as the 'Head of the Department of the Central Reference Library' till it is completely merged

3

4

of India. The Cell may write to them for taking necessary action in this regard.

Libraries are already doing this through their activities. Hence no specific action is required on this.



Action on this item has already been indicated in the preamble.

Action already indicated at Point (i) of the preamble of Chapter III.

1

2

vested with the National Library, as one of its essential functions.

with the National Library).

42. Delivery of Books Act, 1954 and Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867 should be reviewed and amended suitably so as to ensure continuous supply of publications to the National Libraries. In view of the pressure on the publishing industry, the Government may consider reducing the number of copies to be deposited and removing the postal charges.

NOT ACCEPTED.

Adequate fund is to be provided to the four recipient libraries. Delivery of Books Act should be reviewed ensuring strict follow-up action by the recipient libraries.

43. In view of the rapid expansion of library and information science and fast changing character of this service, there is an urgent need of introducing a planned manpower development programme both on short and long term basis. The Indian librarians will face the difficult task of carrying the literacy drive on the one

ACCEPTED.

UGC and AICTE may consider of undertaking a survey with the help of Manpower Research Institution by associating a few specialists and professional organisations.

3

4

Action already indicated under This is covered under item 35.
item No. 35.



The Cell may write to the _____
UGC/AICTE for necessary act-
ion in this regard.

hand and dealing with the technological changes on the other.

44. Library and Information Science courses run by the universities and comparable institutions at the Post Graduate level may stress more on information technology, modern management methods and preservation & conservation in their curriculum. To meet the urgent need, a large number of short term training/ orientation courses in these areas need to be introduced, through a few, recognised, selected institutions.

45. Considering the fact that Library and Information Science Courses tend to proliferate introducing on occasion a dilution of standard, there should be an accreditation agency to ensure the stand-

UGC/AICTE may take up this programme on priority basis and identify such institutions, for example, Institute of Management; NITIE, Bombay; ASCI, Hyderabad; etc. The course curriculum and course material may be produced in consultation with a few experts in management-studies and librarians/information scientists. Adequate allocation of fund is to be shared among UGC, AICTE, RRRLF, NCERT, National Library, Department of Education, etc.

AICTE could be the accrediting agency for libraries attached to various academic institutions based on the standards, norms and guidelines. (Proposed to be developed under the guidance of

The Cell may write to the UGC /AICTE for necessary action in this regard. Funding for the courses will be the responsibility of the respective organisations.



Besides the AICTE, the UGC should also be made responsible for ensuring the standard and quality of training. The Cell may write to the UGC/AICTE accordingly.

Action may be initiated by the Library & Information Division when set up.

1

2

rd and quality of the training imparted.

Association of Indian Universities and NCERT). AICTE may also be the accrediting agency for the professional courses in Library and Information Science offered at the Degree level. A proposal is to be sent on behalf of the Empowered Committee to the Department of Education.

46. There is a strong need of having a national R&D Centre for Library and Information Science. This Centre may be set up in Madras keeping in view Prof. Ranganathan's contribution in this field.

47. Government of India should take suitable steps for the creation of an All India Library Service. The creation of such a Service will strengthen the national network of library and information system and save stagnation and improve quality of service. Fourth Pay Commission

Department of Culture may take suitable steps on this matter.

Deferred.

No action required.



So long as 'Library' is a State subject, an All India Library Service is not feasible. However, the Department of Culture, in consultation with the Ministry of Home Affairs, may examine the feasibility of instituting a Central Service for the Central Govt. Librarians.

Action may be initiated by the Library & Information Division when set up.

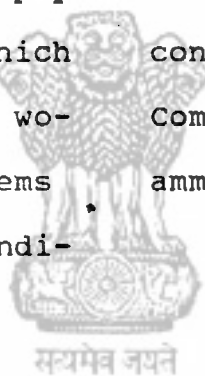
has asked this to be considered.

MODERNISATION OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SYSTEM

48. To keep pace with advanced electronics, computer technology, telecommunication, reprography and micrography technology, and all of which needed for future library work, new management systems compatible with Indian Conditions must be introduced.

ACCEPTED.

National Library in consultation with DST, DOE and other appropriate agencies may constitute a High Powered Committee to evolve a programme of action.



49. Application of computers in major libraries in the country should be introduced.

The National Library should take suitable steps to coordinate the programme of action

The Cell may write to the national Library, Calcutta to send a detailed proposal to the DOC for constituting a High Powered Committee for evolving a programme of action for all aspects of Modernisation of the library and information system in the country. The members of the Committee may consist of Heads of all concerned organisations. On receiving the proposal, the Cell will consult the Organisations/Departments/ Ministries concerned with a view to constituting the High-Powered Committee.

Action may be initiated by Library & Information Division when set up.



The terms of reference of the above mentioned High-Powered Committee will also include

Covered under item 48 above.

However, care is to be taken to ensure compatibility in both hardware and software specifications, standardised data formats so as to facilitate linkages and evolve a national network.

with the help and support of appropriate agencies.

50. In developing an Information Network by linking village library/community centre library, with the National Library Grid, there has to be common linkages and equipment made available to all the library systems. This is an essential factor in making information available/accessible to the rural population. This common system should also have the back up of an efficient document supply system.

ACCEPTED.

NCL may identify a few model institutions in each Region for monitoring the national network system. Similarly, accessibility of international databases and their linkages would also to be decided by the National Commission keeping in view sectoral needs of the user groups.

51. Low cost photocopying/mi-

More and more information pa-

the consideration of these areas.

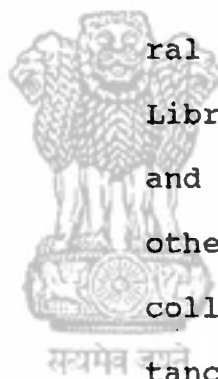
The Cell may write to the NIC to ascertain in what ways they can help in evolving an information network down to the village level and the linkages of all the networks right upto the national level. At the same time, the Cell may also write to the State and UT Governments to initiate action in evolving the necessary infrastructure for such networking and linkage with the help and guidance of the NIC. The RRRLF may be asked to formulate a scheme to provide financial support for computerisation of libraries and their linkages.

Action may be initiated by the Library & Information Division when set up.

The Cell may write to the

crofiche facilities should be available in the libraries. In addition, contraction of library information material by increasingly resorting to acquisition of microform media, magnetic tapes, video discs, CD-ROM, etc.; should be encouraged for saving storage space, preservation and effective service.

ckages would be available in non-printed multi-media forms which would be acquired by Indian libraries. In addition, for the sake of preservation and compact storage facilities, Indian libraries shall convert more and more printed materials into these formats for the preservation of cultural heritage. The National Library is to take the lead and provide guidelines to other institutions having collections of national importance.



52. Provision should be made at District level for mobile audio-visual information services in Indian languages for rural areas to supplement the national T.V. network. The RRRLF and other such organisations should take initiatives in providing suitable audio-visual packages that could help the users in making effective

RRRLF may take appropriate steps. Initially, the Foundation may identify a few(10) District libraries and provide them with necessary support and a.v. packages. Institutions identified in the NPE Programme of Action in developing and supporting such educational technological programmes, are asked to collabo-

National Library to take a lead in the matter and provide necessary guidelines within six months.



The Cell may write to the RRLF to take appropriate steps in the matter, involving voluntary and autonomous organisations in the field as much as possible.

1

2

ctive use of the libraries.

rate with the Foundation.

IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT

53. A National Commission on Libraries and Information System or alternatively, it may be named as National Commission on Informatics and Documentation may be constituted by an Act of Parliament to serve under the Ministry of Human Resource Development. The Commission will have representation from appropriate Central and State agencies and could provide guidance and coordinate Library Development Programme in all sectoral areas. This apex body will have the primary responsibility for the implementation of NAPLIS Programmes.

ACCEPTED.

Department of Culture may take suitable action in preparing the Draft Bill on National Commission on Libraries (NCL) giving the detailed provision under powers and function of the NCL, Bodies of the NCL, final accounts and audit of the NCL, etc; (example, AICTE Act of 1988).

54. In addition, the Central Advisory Board of Education may have a Standing Sub-committee to deal with matters rel-

ACCEPTED.

Department of Education may examine.

The proposal for setting up a National Commission on Library & Information System has been included in the National Cultural Policy for consideration of the Govt. and the Parliament. Meanwhile, the Deptt. of Culture may constitute a Central Advisory Committee on Library and Information System on the lines of the Central Advisory Board of Education.

Action may be taken by the Library & Information Division when set up.



The Cell may write to the Deptt. of Education for necessary action.

ated to Library & Information Science attached to various States and Central institutions.

55. Ministry of Human Resource Development should constitute a "Library Unit" at the Bureau Head level with necessary support at the earliest. This is an essential step in the process of implementing the Empowered Committee's decisions. The Bureau Head of the Library Unit may, as well, function as the Member-Secretary of the National Commission on Libraries as well as of the Standing Subcommittee for Libraries of the Central Advisory Board of Education.

ACCEPTED.

Department of Culture has already been requested for processing the recommendation. This Library Unit will be entrusted with the implementation of the Empowered Committee's decision including the Bureau Head level staff pattern and adequate financial outlay. The tenure of the Implementation Cell may be for a period of 6 months from 1.4.88 or from the date the Library Unit starts operating formally, whichever is earlier.

The Working Group is convinced that, in the absence of proper staff, the processing of the decisions of the Empowered Committee will not be feasible. Hence, the Cell should initiate action on priority to create in the first place a Division called the Library & Information Division in the DOC with the following Officers and Staff;

POST ----	NUMBER -----
1. Dy.Secretary or equivalent	
2. Under Secretary or equivalent	2
3. Section Officers	4
4. Assistants	8
5. Complementary Groups C&D	As per SIU norms

It is envisaged that in time the Division will grow into a Bureau as per the Empowered

The Cell may initiate action immediately to invite the SIU (Staff Inspection Unit) of the Ministry of Finance with a view to setting up the Library & Information Division at the earliest.

56. Adequate financial support for the development of libraries will be made available by the Central and State Governments. Funding of library development at various levels should be shared by various agencies: Ministries/ Departments of the Central Government, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Ministry of Rural Development, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Department of Science and Technology, Department of Electronics, Ministry of Health Family Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture, Public Undertakings, Industrial houses, and voluntary organisations. Total gross annual allocation of funds on "Library head may be at 6-10% of that on " Education " head for the Central / State Governments.

Agreed in principle. Attention may be drawn to the Ministries/ Departments of Central and State Governments seeking their help and support.

Committee decision.

The Cell may write to the different Ministries Departments for providing adequate funds for the development of libraries under their control.

It may also write to the State and U.T. Govts. to provide atleast 6 to 10 % of their education budget for libraries.

Action may be initiated by the Library & Information Division when set up.



57. Establish a multi-tier national network with the application of modern technology is the NAPLIS Committee's principal recommendation to the Government.

Department of Culture and NCL are to take suitable steps in establishing national network of library system with the support and collaboration of organisations, such as, DST, DOE, State Government agencies etc.

58. For the benefit of outstation scholars, major libraries having the national collections should have some provision of accommodation for the visiting scholars.

Application to libraries with special collection of national importance. Existing hostel / guest house facilities attached to the academic/ research institutions in the same locality should be made available to the scholars, who want to make use of the library collections. Central and State Governments may issue suitable Notification to such organisations.

59. ICSSR has proposed to establish a National Information System for Social Sciences.

This proposal and similar programmes should be first examined by the National Commission on Libraries.

60. Statistical and other data are collected by Government

ACCEPTED.

Like publications brought out

3

4

Already covered under other
items.

No separate action required.

The Cell may write to the
Departments/ Ministries and
the State & U.T. Governments
for taking necessary action.



The matter may be considered
by the proposed High- Powered
Committee (vide item 48).

Covered under item 48.

The Cell may write to the
Ministries/ Departments/State

and Semi- Government agencies for policy planning and monitoring purposes. These data collected by Government agencies may be made available to research scholars through institutions they are attached to.

by the parent organisations, these statistical and other data would be made available to research scholars through the libraries attached to the parent body.



& U.T. Governments as also
UGC, AICTE & NIC for necess-
ary action.

